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Friday, June 5, 2009

President Michael G. Waddoups, Chair Speaker David Clark, Vice-Chair Legislative Management Committee State Capitol Complex Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

Subject: Interim Study Topics—Health and Human Services

President Waddoups and Speaker Clark:

We respectfully request the Legislative Management Committee's approval for the Health and Human Services Interim Committee to organize its work this year around the following prioritized topics.

- Pandemic Preparedness
- Division of Services for People with Disabilities—Policy Priorities
- · Health Education in Public Schools
- Substance Abuse
- Use of Tobacco Monies
- Health Insurance Mandates
- Emergency Medical Care
- Departments of Health and Human Services—Organization Structure
- · Healthcare—Providers, Disparities, CHIP
- Review of 2010 Draft Health and Human Services Legislation

The first three topics have already been scheduled for our June 17 meeting. A detailed list of the Master Study Resolution items and other issues to be addressed under each topic are included on the next page.

Sincerely,

Senator D. Chris Buttars

Senate Chair,

Health and Human Services

Interim Committee

Representative Paul Ra

House Chair,

Health and Human Services

Interim Committee

ISSUES PRIORITIZED WITHIN EACH GENERAL STUDY TOPIC: HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES INTERIM COMMITTEE

(Numbering refers to the Master Study Resolution; requesters are shown in parentheses.)

PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS

 Review the public health response to the novel H1N1 flu (swine flu) outbreak and recent changes to Utah's public health emergency laws. (Health and Human Services Interim Committee)

DIVISION OF SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES—POLICY PRIORITIES

 Consider the Department of Human Services' request for policy guidance on how to manage services provided by the Division of Services for People with Disabilities in light of budget reductions made during the 2009 General Session. (Department of Human Services)

HEALTH EDUCATION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

 Consider 2009 General Session H.B. 189, "Instruction in Health Amendments," which modifies provisions related to health courses taught in public schools. (Ray)

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- 77. Prescription Drug Disposal to study ways to expand current efforts to properly dispose of unused over-the-counter and prescription drugs and how to facilitate, as a method of disposal, a reverse distribution process pharmacists use for returning drugs to manufacturers (Jones).
- 72. Hospital Admissions Related to Drug Overdose to study the best way to report and track hospital admissions for drug overdose (Stephenson).
- Substance Abuse to study strategies to address the prevention of substance abuse. (Jones)
- 104. Illegal Prescription Drug Use to study illegal possession of prescription drugs, including drugs obtained by mail or the Internet without a valid prescription (Beck).
- Integrating DORA (Drug Offender Reform Act) and drug courts. (Buttars)

USE OF TOBACCO MONIES

80. Use of Tobacco Monies - to study and review the use of tobacco monies from the 1998 Master Settlement Agreement and the 1997 and 2002 cigarette tax increases for tobacco prevention, reduction, cessation, and control, and review program outcomes, funding and evaluation processes, and the adequacy of statutory requirements (Menlove).

HEALTH INSURANCE MANDATES

74. Insurance for Autism - to study whether the state should contract with an insurance company to provide an autism policy, available for purchase before a child is born, to pay the costs of

- treatment if the child has an autism spectrum disorder (Stephenson).
- Insurance Coverage for Eosinophilic Disorders (Johnson)

EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE

- 73. Hospital Emergency Services to study incentives to decrease the inappropriate use of emergency rooms and other issues related to the cost and quality of emergency services use (S.B. 119) (Buttars).
- 63. Ambulance Issues to study intermodal facility transport and licensing (2nd Sub. H.B. 273) (Hughes).
- 100. Ambulance Service and 9-1-1 to study 9-1-1 and an interfacility ambulance service (Noel).

DEPARTMENTS OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES—ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE

- 65. Changing Medical Services Responsibilities to study whether to move the Medical Examiner's Office and the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services from the Department of Health to the Department of Public Safety (H.B. 395) (Health and Human Services Standing Committee).
- Department of Health and Department of Human Services Advisory Boards (HHS Interim Committee) -Review the impact of 2009 H.B. 306, which eliminated the following boards and transferred their responsibilities to their associated divisions:
 - Board of Child and Family Services;
 - · Board of Services for People with Disabilities;
 - Board of Public Guardian Services;
 - · Human Services Licensing Board; and
 - Board of Substance Abuse and Mental Health (Health and Human Services Interim Committee)

HEALTHCARE-PROVIDERS, DISPARITIES, CHIP

- Health Clinics of Utah—Role, Functions, and Néeds.
 (Department of Health)
- 69. Health Disparities to study how to address health disparity issues through policy (S.B. 55) (Robles).
- CHIP Enrollment to study disenrollment in the state's CHIP program (Holdaway).
- CHIP for legal permanent resident children. (S.B. 225)
- 78. Relationships Between Surgical Centers and Health Insurers to study reimbursement levels and contracting relationships between ambulatory surgical centers and health insurers in the state (Killpack).
- 61. Abusive Work Environment Prohibition to study the development of a Health Care Provider Abusive Environment Prohibition Act (H.B. 224) (House Health and Human Services Standing Committee).